



**Research Assistant (South Asian Community Focus)
Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work
University of Toronto**

Research Project Title:

Understanding and Promoting Transformative Resilience among Immigrant Communities

Principal Investigators:

Yogendra Shakya, Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services
Rupaleem Bhuyan, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto

Research Description

This community based research project is co-led by Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services and the University of Toronto Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, with collaboration between service providers, civic engagement organizations, and community organizers. The project is funded by Building Migrant Resilience in Cities/Immigration et resilience en milieu urbaine, a research partnership and multi-sector collaboration among academics and community that is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. “Understanding and Promoting Transformative Resilience among Immigrant Communities” seeks to better understand how immigrant communities engage in “transformative resilience” by challenging and overcoming systemic inequalities and barriers they face in Canada.

The goals of this research are:

1. Investigate how and why immigrant communities mobilize collectively against root causes associated with challenges and adversities they face (e.g. precarious immigration status and decent work);
2. Document impacts from these collective actions on immigrant communities (in terms of resilience and wellbeing) and on the host society; and
3. Build knowledge about institutional supports and resources that can strengthen collective civic action among immigrant communities

Job Description

The Transformative Resilience Project is seeking a qualified research assistant to support data collection with South Asian immigrants in the Greater Toronto Area. The Research Assistant will be responsible for coordinating research activities and community engagement for the Transformative Resilience project, including carrying out focus groups and interviews with community organizers from the South Asian diaspora. Participants for this research come from

the South Asian diaspora so language competency in one of the following languages is required: Hindi, Punjabi, Urdu, Bengali, Tamil, or other South Asian languages. The RA will also support coordinating community outreach, participant recruitment, and data management. This is a part-time position (10 hours per week) starting in March 2019 for four months. Preference will be given to current undergraduate or graduate students.

Specific Duties

- Conduct focus group discussions and qualitative interviews with community leaders and organizers
- Engage community partners in the research process through in-person meetings and other communication
- Transcription of focus groups discussions and individual interviews
- Maintain correspondence and exchange information with team members
- Attend research team meetings (in person or via Skype or teleconference)
- Other duties as assigned

Required Skills

- Experience working in community-based settings with immigrants and/or immigrant women
- Experience conducting research, preferably qualitative interviews with vulnerable populations
- Spoken and written fluency in English and conversational skills in one of the following languages: Hindi, Punjabi, Urdu, Bengali, Tamil, or other South Asian languages
- Familiarity with issues related to immigration
- Familiarity with issues related to precarious work
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Works well in a team environment

Please email a resume and cover letter along with the names of two references by Wednesday March 13, 2019 to Andrea Bobadilla at andrea.bobadilla@utoronto.ca. **Please save all documents in one PDF file.**

We thank all applicants; however, due to limited resources, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.